GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1585
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
INSAT-2B
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether INSAT-2B, space satellite has developed snag and has lost its `earth lock`;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the scientists at ISRO to rectify the snag;

(c) whether some channels of Doordarshan have been affected as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the alternative arrangements made by DoT, ISRO and other connected Organisations in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. INSAT-2B launched in July 1993 has already completed its design life of seven years by mid 2000. On November 3, 2000 the satellite lost earth lock due to the depletion of the oxidiser on-board which is normal towards the end of its life. Due to the depletion of the oxidiser, the recovery efforts took longer than normal and the satellite was reacquired on November 5, 2000.

(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. Gnyan Darshan, a Doordarshan channel operating through INSAT-2B satellite was affected due to this loss of lock. It was restored on the November 7, 2000.